

EXECUTIVE LEVEL GANG SUMMIT

JUNE 27-28, 2012

**HOTEL ROANOKE AND
CONFERENCE CENTER**

ROANOKE, VIRGINIA



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COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Criminal Justice Services

Garth L. Wheeler
Director

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June 27, 2012

Dear Summit Participant,

On behalf of Governor Bob McDonnell, Lieutenant Governor Bill Bolling, Attorney General Ken Cuccinelli, and Secretary of Public Safety Marla Decker, I would like to welcome you to the Executive Level Gang Summit. We are excited that you have accepted our invitation to participate in this summit. We have brought together national and regional experts and practitioners to discuss strategies, best practices, and programs that are producing positive outcomes in the areas of gang prevention and intervention. Over the next day and a half, professionals from a variety of backgrounds and disciplines will gather to share experiences and discuss how their efforts impacted the presence of gangs in their community. They will also share with you the challenges and issues they faced and how they addressed those problems.

I hope you will use this opportunity to learn from each other, share best practices, and most importantly, make valuable connections and contacts that support your challenging roles and responsibilities. Gang and violent crime reduction has been and continues to be a top priority for this administration. Your participation and the involvement of your agency play a significant role in our success.

The Executive Gang Summit is greatly enhanced by your participation. We thank you all for your contributions to the health and welfare of all the citizens of the Commonwealth and for your willingness to share your time, talents, and experiences with your peers and fellow professionals.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Garth L. Wheeler".

Garth L. Wheeler
Director

Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27

1:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Welcome and Overview of Summit

Garth L. Wheeler, *Director, Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services*

Timothy J. Heaphy, *U.S. Attorney, Western District of Virginia*

1:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.

Overview of Virginia's Gang Strategy: The Governor's Anti-Gang Initiatives

Marla Graff Decker, *Virginia Secretary of Public Safety*

1:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

The State of Gangs in Virginia

Megan Kirkland, *Analytical Program Manager/Deputy Director,
Virginia Fusion Center, Virginia State Police*

The Virginia Fusion Center: What It Can Do for You

Steve Lambert, *Captain, Bureau of Criminal Investigations,
Criminal Intelligence Division, Virginia State Police*

3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

Break

3:15 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's Comprehensive Anti-Gang Model

Dennis Mondoro, *Strategic Community Development, Office of Juvenile Justice
and Delinquency Prevention, U.S. Department of Justice*

4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Introduction to GRIP: A Community Approach to Combating Gangs in Virginia

Amy Wight, *GRIP Director, Virginia Office of the Attorney General*

Carol Adams, *Sergeant, Community Care Unit,
Richmond (Virginia) Police Department*

5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Reception

THURSDAY, JUNE 28

- 8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.** **Welcome**
Virginia Office of the Attorney General: Anti-gang Initiatives
Kenneth T. Cuccinelli, II, *Attorney General of Virginia*
- 9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.** **The PanZOU Project: Working With Gang Members/High-Risk Individuals and Their Families to Reduce Gang Involvement**
Laura Kallus, *Executive Director, PanZOU Project*
- 9:45 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.** **Break**
- 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.** **Miami Project Action In Communities Task Force (MPACT)**
Ian A. Moffett, *Director, TAME Inc.*
- 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.** **The Gang Resistance and Education Training Program (G.R.E.A.T.)**
Warren Harding, *G.R.E.A.T. Program Outreach Coordinator, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, U.S. Department of Justice*
David Bowen, *Ph.D., Director, Mayor's Office on Safe Streets and Coordinated Community Resources, Salisbury, MD*
- 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.** **Lunch**
- 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.** **School/Police Collaboration: Schools and Law Enforcement Working Together**
Willie Bell, *Ph.D., Director of Secondary Instruction, Petersburg (Virginia) City Public Schools*
- 2:00 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.** **Engaging the Community**
Robert L. Woodson, Sr., *President, Center for Neighborhood Enterprise*
- 2:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.** **Break**
- 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.** **Hope Through Intervention and Transformation**
Victor Torres, *Pastor, New Life Outreach International*

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

The State of Gangs in Virginia

This presentation will provide an overview on the predominant gangs in Virginia, discuss the trends and patterns, and also highlight recruitment methods used by gangs as reported to the Virginia Fusion Center (VFC). It will go into detail about the three platforms the VFC uses to capture, record, and share gang intelligence as well as highlight gang intelligence products that are disseminated weekly and monthly.

The Virginia Fusion Center: What It Can Do for You

The Virginia Fusion Center (VFC) was created as a partnership between the Virginia State Police and the Virginia Department of Emergency Management to improve the Commonwealth of Virginia's preparedness against terrorist attacks and to deter criminal activity. The Center provides a vital conduit for information exchange between the VFC and its partners throughout the Commonwealth. The Center's activities and information dissemination capabilities support and aid Virginia law enforcement in addressing gang activity.

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's Comprehensive Anti-Gang Model

OJJDP's Gang Reduction Program is designed to reduce gang activity in targeted neighborhoods by incorporating a broad spectrum of research-based interventions to address the range of personal, family, and community factors that contribute to juvenile delinquency and gang activity. The program integrates federal, state, and local resources, incorporating best practices in gang prevention, intervention, and suppression.

Introduction to GRIP: A Community Approach to Combating Gangs in Virginia

The Gang Reduction and Intervention Program, GRIP, is a gang prevention/intervention model designed to prevent children from joining gangs and intervene with youth who are gang involved. GRIP uses a five-pronged approach which includes primary prevention, secondary prevention, intervention, suppression and reentry.

Virginia Office of the Attorney General: Anti-Gang Initiatives

Over the past decade, the Office of the Attorney General has worked hard to combat gangs in all areas of the Commonwealth. In an effort to combat rising gang activity, the Office worked to push forward tougher laws in the General Assembly and began arming law enforcement with the tools and support necessary to fight gangs.

The PanZOu Project: Working With Gang Members/High-risk Individuals and Their Families to Reduce Gang Involvement

The PanZOu Project has been implementing the federal Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's Gang Reduction Program (GRP) in Florida since 2004. Their comprehensive gang reduction model incorporates aggressive street outreach efforts to ensure high-risk individuals and their families receive needed services that help reduce the chances of gang involvement.

Miami Project Action In Communities Task Force (MPACT)

This presentation will include an overview and history of Miami-Dade (Florida) County's successful implementation of OJJDP's Comprehensive Gang Reduction Model. Collaboration among local law enforcement, educational agencies, businesses, non-profit organizations, and social services made a difference for high risk youths.

G.R.E.A.T. – The Gang Resistance and Education Training Program

G.R.E.A.T. is an anti-gang, school based program that teaches late elementary/early middle school students to avoid gangs, violence, and delinquency. G.R.E.A.T. is taught by specially trained ATF agents and other law enforcement officers across the country.

Continued

BIOGRAPHIES

School/Police Collaboration: Schools and Law Enforcement Working Together

The partnership between schools and law enforcement is invaluable. Since schools are often the place where gangs and gang members come together, information sharing and collaborative efforts are instrumental to identifying and dealing with gang activity. Dr. Bell will address efforts to reduce gang involvement in a local Richmond high school.

Engaging the Community

The Center for Neighborhood Enterprise assists residents of low-income neighborhoods to address the problems of their communities. Supporting neighborhood-based initiatives helps to reduce crime and violence, restore families, create economic enterprise and employment, and revitalize low-income communities.

Hope Through Intervention and Transformation

New Life For Youth, a ministry of the New Life Outreach International in Richmond, Virginia, provides youth, adults, and families with an effective, comprehensive, Christian faith-based solution to life-controlling drug and alcohol problems in order to become productive members of society. This program endeavors to help people become mentally sound, emotionally balanced, socially adjusted, physically well, and spiritually alive. New Life For Youth has been recognized nationally as a provider of recovery services for those who desire to transform their lifestyle and develop a new life free from the devastation of drug and alcohol abuse.

CAROL ADAMS – Sergeant Adams, a 23-year law enforcement veteran, joined the Richmond (Virginia) Police Department 15 years ago and currently serves as the Community Care Sergeant for the Community Youth Interventions Services Division. She is responsible for establishing and maintaining community partnerships, crime prevention education, and the day to day operations of the Southside GRIP One Stop Resource Center. Prior to her service with Richmond Police Department, she was employed by the Richmond (Virginia) Sheriff's Department and is a 23 year law enforcement veteran.

WILLIE BELL, PH.D. – Dr. Bell is currently the Director of Secondary Instruction and Career & Technical Education for the Petersburg (Virginia) City Public Schools. Prior to that position, he served as Principal of George Wythe High School in Richmond, Virginia where under his guidance, graduation rates increased from 54% to 81%, truancy rates decreased from 34% to 11%, student attendance increased from 81% to 86.31%, and staff attendance increased six per cent.

DAVID BOWEN, PH.D. – Dr. Bowen currently serves as the Director of the Mayor of Salisbury, Maryland's Office on Safe Streets and Coordinated Community Resources. He was the Director of Gang Intelligence for the Maryland Department of Juvenile Services in 2009.

KENNETH CUCCINELLI, II – The Honorable Kenneth T. Cuccinelli, II was elected Attorney General of Virginia and sworn into office in January 2010. As Attorney General, he is responsible for overseeing an office of over 425 employees. Prior to serving as Attorney General, he served in the Senate of Virginia from August 2002 to January 2010. Attorney General Cuccinelli earned a degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Virginia, a master's degree in International Commerce and Policy from George Mason University, and his juris doctor from the George Mason University School of Law and Economics.

MARLA DECKER – The Honorable Marla Graff Decker was appointed Virginia's Secretary of Public Safety by Governor Bob McDonnell in 2009. Prior to her appointment, Secretary Decker served in the Office of the

Attorney General for over 25 years. In that capacity, she supervised and staffed anti-gang, anti-terrorism, and crime prevention initiatives as well as supervised criminal investigations and prosecutions.

WARREN HARDING – Mr. Harding is the G.R.E.A.T. Program Outreach Coordinator for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives at the U.S. Department of Justice. He was a member of the committee that developed the new 13-week G.R.E.A.T. middle-school curriculum, the new elementary curriculum, and the new G.R.E.A.T. Families program.

LAURA KALLUS – Ms. Kallus has over fifteen years of experience working with gang-involved youth, from direct street outreach and case management to program development and implementation. The PanZOu Project is a comprehensive gang reduction program incorporating best practices in primary prevention, secondary prevention, intervention, suppression and reentry initiatives.

MEGAN KIRKLAND – Ms. Kirkland is responsible for the research, evaluation, and dissemination of gang intelligence information at the Virginia State Police's Virginia Fusion Center (VFC). She interprets data provided to the VFC from local, state, federal, and private agencies and creates and generates products to show methods, trends, patterns and changes in gang populations.

STEVE LAMBERT – Captain Lambert commands the Virginia State Police's Criminal Intelligence Division which houses the Virginia Fusion Center, a multi-disciplinary information and intelligence center that serves federal, state, local, and private sector partners dedicated to fighting crime and terrorism.

IAN MOFFETT – Major Moffett currently commands the Miami (Florida) Police Department's Training & Personnel Development Section and is Director of the Miami Police Training Center. Previously, while Captain was with the Miami-Dade (Florida) Schools Police Department, one of his responsibilities was the management of the Gang Free Schools and Community Initiative grant. He has 19 years of law enforcement experience, possesses a

M.S. from the University of Cincinnati and a B.S. in Criminal Justice from Florida International University.

DENNIS MONDORO – Mr. Mondoro is affiliated with Youth Gang Prevention and Intervention as part of the U.S. Department of Justice's Anti-Gang Initiative. OJJDP's Gang Reduction Program is designed to reduce gang activity in targeted neighborhoods by incorporating a broad spectrum of research-based interventions to address the range of personal, family, and community factors that contribute to juvenile delinquency and gang activity.

VICTOR TORRES – Pastor Victor Torres was a gang warlord and heroin addict in New York City. His life took a turn for the good and he went to Bible College where he met and married his wife, Carmen. In 1972, Victor and Carmen founded the New Life For Youth ministry, one of America's most successful ministries to help young men and women find freedom from drug addiction and gang life. The Torres' are the founders and pastors of New Life Outreach International Church in Richmond, Virginia.

AMY WIGHT – Ms. Wight was named the Director of the Gang Reduction and Intervention Program at the Virginia Office of the Attorney General (OAG) in 2009. Prior to that position, she has served at the OAG since 2001 as the Special Projects Coordinator for the Public Safety and Enforcement Division and has coordinated numerous public safety initiatives. Ms. Wight holds a Gang Specialist Certification from the Virginia Gang Investigators Association and has been trained in gang reduction by the United States Department of Justice, the National Gang Center, and the Virginia Gang Investigators Association. Ms. Wight is a graduate of Wellesley College.

ROBERT WOODSON – Mr. Woodson is founder and president of the Center for Neighborhood Enterprise (CNE). CNE is a nonprofit, nonpartisan research and demonstration organization that supports neighborhood-based initiatives to reduce crime and violence, restore families, create economic enterprise and employment, and revitalize low-income communities.

For more information on the Gang Reduction and Intervention Program and how DCJS may assist you in your efforts, please contact:

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